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THE FORTHCOMING XVI ALL-UNION CONGRESS OF HYGIENISTS AND SANITARIANS (Navstrechu XVI Vsesoyuznomy Syezdu Gigienistov i Sanitarnykh Vrachey)

F. G. Krotkov

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THE FORTHCOMING XVI ALL-UNION CONGRESS OF HYGIENISTS AND SANITARIANS

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Chairman of the Board of the All-Union Scientific Society of Hygienists

The XVI All-Union Congress of Hygienists and Sanitarians will take place in September, 1972, in the city of Gorky. The Congress will attract 1000 delegates and guests, representing more than 13,000 members of the All-Union Scientific Society of Hygienists, to discuss results of the past five years' work and to plan the future aims of hygienic science and sanitary practice. The XVI Congress coincides with the 50th anniversary of the publication of the decree of the Soviet People's Commission of the RSFSR "Sanitary agencies of the republic." This decree, signed on Sept. 15, 1922, defined the aims, structure, standards, rights and duties of the sanitary agencies of this country. The XVI Congress of the All-Union Scientific Society of Hygienists can, therefore, with complete justification be considered a jubilee.

The program of the Congress includes a special report dealing with the history of the establishment and development of the sanitary organization of this country, which today has a powerful material base and well-trained personnel. This is indicated by the following data: on Jan. 1, 1970, there were 4461 sanitary-epidemiological stations in the country, staffed by 35,000 doctors of the sanitary-epidemiology service and 140,000 doctor's assistants. During the ninth five years plans are to train about 18,000 doctors and more than 35,000 assistants.[1] Directives of the XXIV Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union call for extending the network of sanitary-epidemiological stations. In the next five years, sanitary-epidemiological stations will be built according to new type plans which meet all modern requirements.

The XXIV Congress of the Communist Party adopted a number of resolutions which are of paramount importance to national public health care. The resolutions of the Congress give much attention to the protection of nature, pre-

[1] "Zdorov'ye," 1971, No. 6, p. 1.

vention of environmental pollution and the sanitation of the environment. The program of the Congress includes a report on the "Sanitary protection and sanitation of the environment in the light of the resolutions of the XXIV Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union." As is known, environmental pollution has lately become one of the most acute problems of modern times. Questions of environmental sanitation have been given a great deal of attention by the All-Union Organization of Public Health Care, the International Agency on Atomic Energy and the International Organization on Food and Nutrition. An extremely impressive international conference dealing with pollution and sanitation of the environment will be held in Stockholm in June, 1972, under the flag of the UN. There is no reason to doubt the urgency of discussing these questions in the forthcoming forum of hygienists of this country and comprehensively considering and giving critical evaluation of international and domestic experience in the area of sanitary protection and sanitation of the biosphere.

The Congress will last four days. On the first day the main reports will be heard; the second and third days are set aside for sectional work; the last, fourth, day will be occupied with summary reports of the Board of the All-Union Scientific Society of Hygienists and the revisory commission,after which the new Board and revisory commission will be selected.

According to the resolution of the organizational committee, 7 sections will be created at the Congress: 1) social hygiene and public health care organization; 2) general and community hygiene; 3) industrial hygiene and occupational diseases; 4) hygiene of nutrition; 5) hygiene of children and teenagers; 6) rural hygiene and 7) hygiene of transportation (rail, water and air).

After the XV Congress of the All-Union Scientific Society of Hygienists the following important legislative acts were adopted: 1) Principles of legislation of the USSR and united republics on public health care; 2) Principles of water legislation of the USSR and united republics; 3) Principles of legislation of the USSR and united republics on labor.

The forthcoming XVI Congress of Hygienists will have to seriously consider ways of realizing these resolutions, determining the aims of hygienic science and sanitary practice in the coming years.

Soviet hygienists and sanitarians are coming to their All-Union Congress with good records. Their fruitful and selfless work received high praise on the day of the 50th anniversary of Soviet public health care in 1968. Undoubtedly, our regular Congress will be a powerful stimulus to creative activity of the many thousands in the army of sanitarians of our great homeland.